



Evaluation of Napa County's MHSA Three Year Expenditure Plan

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Review of Planning Process

Napa County is to be commended for their efforts to engage consumers and family members in the planning of their three-year expenditure plan. It is evident that they reached out to the community to engage them in the planning process. Throughout the plan there is a sense that the County truly knows their plan of action and how they will get from point A to point B.

Review of Consumer and Family Involvement

There is evidence of consumer and family involvement throughout Napa County's plan. Napa County made a concentrated effort to engage the Latino community and formed a Latino Workgroup. The County is to be commended for this. The CSS Committee hopes that the same attention given to the Latino community is given to all ethnic, LGBT, disabled and hearing impaired individuals no matter how small a percentage of the community they represent. Napa states that a "long range plan" to create an ongoing working partnership of consumers, families and providers and county personnel to provide meaningful input and involvement in the "planning and operation" as the system transforms. The plan looks at the MH Board to continue to provide similar support for plan implementation.

OAC Concerns:

- The OAC CSS Committee would like to have known more about the composition of those members of the public who attended forums and how many members of the public attended the public meetings. How many of these individuals self-identify as consumers and how many were family members? What ethnic groups and age groups were represented?

Fully Served, Underserved/Inappropriately Served, Unserved

The text includes poverty factors giving indications that the number of unserved populations falls mostly under this category. There is a general acknowledgement that “unserved” populations reside in areas where services are not available requiring that consumers travel to Napa. Specific plans to address services for this population are not clearly outlined in the proposed plan.

OAC Concerns:

- The CSS Committee would like to know in future plans how Napa County will be addressing the specific needs of the ‘unserved’ who are unable to travel to the main population center of Napa.

Wellness/Recovery/Resilience

Napa County currently has an SB 163 wraparound program. The County has a clear understanding of what a full service partnership is and what is incorporated into the ‘whatever it takes’ model of providing mental health services to consumers. The County is not expanding its current SB 163 program rather it has chosen to reach to those consumers who would benefit from such a program but do not possess Medi-Cal. The County is to be commended for focusing on bringing those consumers of all age groups back into their county of origin when possible in their full service partnership programs. The County stated that they will be assessing these consumers to see if they will be able to return to their homes under MHSA services. The county is keeping their caseloads small, at a 1:8 ratio for all workplans.

The County makes effective use of system development dollars by implementing a mobile crisis response team that does not incorporate use of law enforcement and is transformational. In addition, the County is also working diligently on engaging the Latino community. The position of System Navigator that is to be created will specifically target ethnic communities to engage them in mental health services and reduce stigma in the community.

The Comprehensive Services for Older Adults (workplan#3) offers services through a comprehensive collaborative model where many public and private organizations come to cooperate in the development and implementation of individual service plans in which older adult consumers are central in the direction of their plan. The plan is holistic in the sense that addresses all the physical, social, economic and emotional needs of consumers.

OAC Concerns:

- The CSS Committee would like to see the County develop more specific strategies developed to meet the unique needs of the LGBT population of all age groups.
- There is no specific mention of children 0-5 within the children’s full service partnership. The CSS Committee is concerned regarding this age group being the early intervention is the key to success.
- Within all of the workplans for children, TAY and older adults there is mention of engaging the Latino community. The CSS Committee would like Napa County to

ensure that it reaches out to all ethnic groups including Asian Americans, Native Americans and African Americans.

Education and Training and Workforce Development

Consumers and family members are to be hired by the County as specified within Napa County's Plan. There is mention of training throughout the workplans however, the CSS Committee had difficulty finding funding for the training within the budgets. The County is to be commended for the creation of a Latino Workforce Summit and the CSS Committee is interested to see what will come out of this summit. The Committee would also like to see the same care and attention given to the Latino community given to all ethnic communities. The County mentioned within the DMH review of their prior use of MSW interns from surrounding area colleges and the CSS Committee encourages the County to continue to utilize the universities and community colleges as resources in workforce development.

Collaboration

There is evidence throughout Napa County's plan of collaboration with a variety of agencies and government organizations. The CSS Committee was impressed with the County providing access for consumers and family members to alcohol and drug treatment services. This is a good step towards recovery and transformational services.

OAC Concerns:

- The Committee would like to know more about how AOD services will be culturally competent and available throughout the county as stated on page 79.
- There is identification within the workplans on what community based organizations Napa County intends to partner with however the CSS Committee would like to see more detailed information on exactly what role these agencies will play and exactly what services they will provide.
- Regarding cultural competency, the County identifies that its Asian population is growing however there does not seem to be a focus on this community within the workplan. This is of concern to the CSS Committee. Does an agency exist within the county that is willing to collaborate with the Napa County in addressing the needs of this growing population?

CONCLUSION

Question: The overarching question for the Oversight and Accountability Commission is: "How will the three-year Community Services and Supports plan move your county system toward the standard of comprehensive, timely, appropriate services in the Mental Health Services Act?" **The Commission asks that the county prepare to answer this question as the first year of CSS plans are implemented.**

The Commission recognizes the need to build a more reliable baseline of information available to everyone, so that answers can be understood within a context. To do so, the Commission is seeking to develop a description of the mental health system in your

county, and in all counties, including an explanation of the structure of the service delivery system, access policies for all children and adults, and range of services received by those not in a categorical funded program.

The Commission is working to develop a baseline to assess the gaps between existing standards of care in mental health and the comprehensive, integrated services envisioned by the Mental Health Services Act. Statewide and national reports tell us that services have been limited and effectively rationed because funding is not tied to caseloads. The Commission believes it will be advantageous to all of the individuals and the private and public organizations involved in change, and beneficial to the public, to have a realistic understanding of the challenges to transforming the mental health system.

In the coming year, the Commission will seek information such as the average caseloads for personal service coordinators and/or case managers and for psychiatrists for the largest percentage of people served. We would like to know what percentage of all mental health consumers are receiving or have access to comprehensive, appropriate, and integrated services, such as individual or group therapy, family counseling, routine medical and dental care, educational or vocational training, substance abuse treatment, supportive housing, and other recovery-oriented services.

To begin with, the Commission will compile available data from traditional sources, and utilize the information you have provided in the CSS plan. In this first year of implementation, we will be enlisting your assistance in measuring the magnitude of changes taking place now and the prospective changes for many years to come. The Commission also will be asking you to determine and report on what resources are lacking in your county. The CSS Committee recognizes the tremendous effort involved in the planning process and commends the county on its many successes.